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SNAPSHOT

An Afghan Woman Presents Her Art to the World

Doha – and the world – will soon be treated to a spectacular exhibition of Afghan art



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Fakhria, a student of the Afghan Arts Institute, specializes in calligraphy and miniature painting

Fakhria is very proud that her work will be displayed at an international exhibition and says she would never been good enough without the training she received at the Kabul Institute

Fakhria spent months painstakingly painting a peacock using the traditional Afghan technique of nuqtapardazi. Her work is now headed for Qatar as a part of Ferozkoh - Traditional Arts from Contemporary Afghanistan Exhibition on display from 20 March 2013 to 22 July at the Museum of Islamic Art in Doha.

The unifying themes of Ferozkoh are the preservation of the traditional arts of the Islamic world – in both subjects and materials – in the modern world, and the role of education in its transmission and translation. Half the objects are historic pieces from the Museum of Islamic Art collection, from four great dynasties with connections to Afghanistan: the Ghaznavids, Timurids, Mughals and Safavids.

The other half of the exhibition presents works created specifically for the exhibition by students of USAID-funded Institute for Afghan Arts and Architecture at Turquoise Mountain in Kabul.

Fakhria and other students and master craftsmen worked on the exhibition for months. Fakhria says she learnt everything she knows about “being a good miniaturist” at the Institute. “Had this opportunity (to train) not been available, I would never have had the skills I now have,” she says.